UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/PRST/1996/11
19 March 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3642nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 March 1996, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has noted with growing concern that the incident described in the letter of 9 March 1996 from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission to the President of the Security Council (S/1996/182) and the further incident on 11 March 1996 in which an inspection team was again not allowed immediate and unconditional access to a site designated by the Commission under its resolution 687 (1991) were followed by further such incidents on 14 and 15 March 1996. In all of these cases access was subsequently granted only after unacceptable delays.

"The Security Council reiterates its full support for the Special Commission in the conduct of its inspections and the other tasks entrusted to it by the Council.

"The Security Council notes the letter of 17 March 1996 to its President from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq (S/1996/204). It recalls that, under paragraph 9 (b) (i) of section C of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), Iraq is required to permit 'immediate on-site inspection of Iraq's biological, chemical and missile capabilities, based on Iraq's declarations and the designation of any additional locations by the Special Commission itself'. By its resolution 707 (1991), the Council also expressly demanded that Iraq 'allow the Special Commission, the International Atomic Energy Agency and their inspection teams immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to any and all areas, facilities, equipment, records and means of transportation which they wish to inspect'. The obligation was furthermore confirmed in the Commission's plan for ongoing monitoring and verification which was approved by the Security Council in resolution 715 (1991); in this context the Council recalls the notes from the Secretary-General of 21 July 1993 (S/26127) and 1 December 1993 (S/26825).

"The Security Council considers that Iraq's delays in permitting the inspection team recently in Iraq access to the sites concerned constitute clear violations by Iraq of the provisions of resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991). The Council demands that the Government of Iraq allow the Special Commission inspection teams immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to all sites designated by the Commission for inspection in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Council."